

**REMARKS**

By this amendment, claim 1, 8, 9, 11, 15, 16, and 18 are amended and claims 10, 17, 19-22, and 24 are canceled to place this application in condition for allowance. Currently, claims 1, 2, 8, 9, 11-16, 18, and 23 are before the Examiner for consideration on their merits.

Applicants' attorney also wishes to thank Examiner Banks for telephonic interview conducted on December 10, 2008. As a result of this interview and as shown in the interview summary form, it was agreed that Winter did not teach the features of claim 1, as amended, i.e., that a salt is output from the electrolysis step.

This filing is made with an RCE as per the interview summary as well. Moreover, and pending the discovery of other prior art as a result of the Examiner's consideration and/or search, the rejection of record would be overcome by this filing.

It is also submitted that the changes to the claims remove the double patenting issues that are outstanding so that this application is now in condition for allowance.

Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to examine this application and pass all pending claims onto issuance.

If the Examiner believes that an interview would be helpful in expediting the allowance of this application, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned at 202-835-1753.

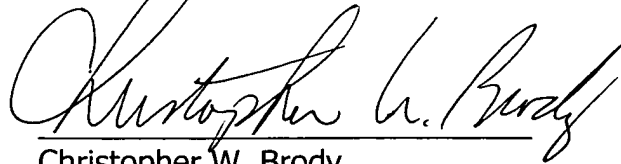
The above constitutes a complete response to all issues raised in the Office Action dated October 7, 2008.

Again, reconsideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

Application No.: 10/575,225

Applicants respectfully submit that there is no fee required for this submission, however, please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1088.

Respectfully submitted,  
CLARK & BRODY

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christopher W. Brody", written over a horizontal line.

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